Remarks

The Office Action mailed August 22, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and the following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-16 are now pending in this application. Claims 9-16 are allowed. Claims 1-8 are rejected. Claims 1, 6, 9, and 15 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a two-month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the due date of the response to the Office Action dated August 22, 2005 for the above-identified patent application from November 22, 2005 through and including January 23, 2006. January 22, 2006 is a Sunday. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(2), authorization to charge a deposit account in the amount of \$450.00 to cover this extension of time request also is submitted herewith.

The objections to Claims 1, 3, and 9 is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 has been amended and Claim 3 depends indirectly from independent Claim 1. Moreover, Claim 9 has been amended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to Claims 1, 3, and 9 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fujishige et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,507,642) is respectfully traversed.

Fujishige et al. describe a system including an error detecting section (101). An error of an impingement position of an X-ray beam (400) in a k-direction is detected by the error detecting section (column 11, lines 7-9). The error detecting section detects the impingement position error based on outputs from a plurality of reference channels (25) of two rows in a detector array (24) (column 11, lines 9-12). The error detection is performed by using X-ray detected signals A and B of the X-ray beam from the reference channels of the two rows to calculate the error 'e' from the following equation: e = (A-B)/(A+B) (column 11, lines 13-20).

Claim 1 recites a radiation computed tomography apparatus comprising "a radiation source for emitting radiation toward a subject; an adjusting device for adjusting an emission extent of the radiation from said radiation source in response to

a control command; a detector array forming a two-dimensional radiation detection surface comprised of a plurality of radiation detectors, for detecting the radiation on said radiation detection surface; a reconstructing device for calculating and reconstructing tomographic image data for a tomographic image of said subject based on projection data of said subject by the radiation acquired by said detector array; and a control device for calculating an irradiated region in said radiation detection surface required for acquiring said projection data for use in reconstruction of a certain portion of said tomographic image data based on parameters relating to reconstruction of said tomographic image data by said reconstructing device, and outputting a control command to said adjusting device for emitting the radiation to impinge upon said irradiated region, wherein said control device configured to calculate the irradiation region by selecting a subset from a set of rows of said radiation detectors, and said control device configured to select the subset based on the parameters including a helical pitch of a helical scan."

Fujishige et al. do not describe or suggest a radiation computed tomography apparatus as recited in Claim 1. Specifically, Fujishige et al. do not describe or suggest the control device configured to calculate the irradiation region by selecting a subset from a set of rows of the radiation detectors, and the control device configured to select the subset based on the parameters including a helical pitch of a helical scan. Rather, Fujishige et al. describe an error detecting section that detects an impingement position error based on outputs from a plurality of reference channels of two rows in a detector array. The error detection is performed by using X-ray detected signals A and B of an X-ray beam from the reference channels of the two rows to calculate the error 'e' from an equation, e = (A-B)/(A+B). A description of detection of an impingement position error based on outputs from a plurality of reference channels of two rows in a detector array does not teach a selection of the subset based on the parameters including a helical pitch of a helical scan. Accordingly, Fujishige et al. do not describe or suggest the control device configured to select the subset based on the parameters including a helical pitch of a helical scan. For the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Fujishige et al.

Claims 2-8 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-8 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that Claims 2-8 likewise is patentable over Fujishige et al.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-8 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

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